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TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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RAIN RELATED PROBLEMS IN THE EAST, BUT EXCELLENT WEEK FOR FARMING ELSEWHERE

The corn is finally drying down, cotton is opening, and prospects for a good-to-excellent soybean crop continued last week, as warm, sunny skies prevailed in Middle and West Tennessee. The only cause for concern came in East Tennessee, where the remnants of Hurricane Frances caused some crop flooding and delayed tobacco harvest. Pastures, however, welcomed the rain. The main activities last week included corn harvest, cotton defoliation, cutting hay, and harvest of early Group III beans. A few insect problems were noted, but the occurrences remained light. Farmers were able to work in the fields virtually all week in West and Middle, while growers in East Tennessee fought the wet conditions. There were six days last week considered suitable for fieldwork. Rainfall totals averaged above normal for the eastern half of the state and below normal elsewhere, while temperatures averaged near or slightly above normal for the week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 19 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 17 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 12, 2004					CONDITION: On September 10, 2004					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn Mature	86	72	88	92	Corn	0	2	10	51	37
Corn Grain Harvested	32	17	30	51	Cotton	0	1	12	61	26
Corn Silage Harvested	89	82	80	88	Soybeans	2	4	14	56	24
Cotton - Bolls Opening	42	25	34	69	Pastures	0	4	17	64	15
Cotton - Defoliated	7	1	5	29						
Cotton - Harvested	1	n/a	0	4						
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	28	17	19	26						
Soybeans Harvested	6	3	1	2						
Tobacco Topped	96	93	95	98						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	68	58	65	72						
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	89	64	79	83						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	75	61	62	73						

CORN: Last week’s dry weather brought farmers the best harvest conditions to date. Faced with being about a week behind schedule the week prior, growers made up most of the deficit and now are about a third completed. Grain moisture levels remain high though and may lead to further delays. The corn crop remains in good-to-excellent condition, as it has all season.

COTTON: Defoliation continued on this year’s forecasted record-yielding crop. The crop is opening now, but development remains behind schedule due to the cloudy weather pattern prior to last week. Producers reported an excellent boll set, especially in the middle and top. The crop was rated 87 percent in the good-to-excellent category.

SOYBEANS: Crop prospects continue good-to-excellent, as sunshine and warmer temperatures helped development. The full-season beans look especially good. Harvest is underway on early planted beans.

TOBACCO: Despite moderate to heavy rainfall in East Tennessee, producers cut an additional 10 percent of the burley crop to where now over two thirds of the crop is in the barn. Growers have about finished topping this years crop. The burley yield is expected to average 1,900 pounds per acre, equal to last year.

PASTURES AND HAY: Pastures welcomed the rain in East Tennessee. In other areas, pastures, although drying out a bit, are better than average for this time of year.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: September 12th, 2004(with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending Sept. 12 th , 2004				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	9/12/04	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	90	59	74	+1	0.07	1	41.62	+4.57	2165	-9
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	56	71	+2	3.46	2	35.74	+5.77	1650	+147
Brownsville_TN	90	59	74	+0	0.00	0	40.76	+3.71	2310	+376
Chattanooga/Lov	90	64	75	+1	1.47	2	34.73	-3.38	2262	+185
Clarksville_Sew	93	59	73	+2	0.00	0	29.30	-6.55	2102	+153
Cookeville	92	56	71	+1	0.99	2	42.45	+1.71	1746	+521
Covington	88	58	72	-2	0.00	0	37.21	+1.07	2056	-161
Crossville_AP	84	56	69	+1	2.21	3	41.60	+1.63	1549	+160
Dickson_AG	88	57	71	-2	0.03	2	44.17	+5.91	1754	-277
Dover_1W	88	56	72	+1	0.00	0	30.48	-6.70	1938	+204
Dyersburg	88	57	73	-2	0.00	0	26.81	-8.59	2210	-142
Erwin_1W	84	58	70	+3	4.45	4	38.78	+2.38	1592	-192
Huntingdon_Wate	89	58	73	+0	0.00	0	39.04	+1.73	2066	+218
Jackson_Exp_Stn	91	58	73	+0	0.00	0	37.07	+0.35	2189	+64
Kingston_AG	86	61	71	+1	2.39	4	40.42	-1.48	1850	+240
Knoxville_AP	91	61	74	+2	1.52	3	36.65	+2.39	2066	+264
Lewisburg	90	56	73	+2	0.03	1	43.82	+5.05	1976	+162
Lexington_TN	90	58	73	+0	0.04	1	39.47	+3.67	2053	+739
Linden	90	57	73	+2	0.12	2	40.90	+1.54	1927	+103
Martin	90	57	74	+2	0.00	0	32.78	-4.52	2122	+85
Mc_Minnville_Tn	89	60	73	+2	0.60	3	40.22	+2.18	1996	-257
Memphis_AG	91	59	74	-2	0.00	0	37.38	+1.09	2308	-316
Milan	90	55	73	+1	0.00	0	33.74	-4.59	2060	+71
Murfreesboro_5N	92	58	73	+1	0.14	2	36.65	-1.30	1997	-246
Nashville_Metro	91	61	75	+2	0.00	0	40.85	+6.80	2190	+54
Newcomb	86	59	70	+3	2.98	3	40.51	+1.14	1580	+271
Oneida	87	58	70	+3	1.79	1	37.12	-2.25	1629	-289
Pikeville	88	57	73	+2	2.13	2	37.26	-0.88	1926	+160
Portland_TN	89	57	72	+2	0.06	1	41.98	+5.12	1896	+121
Pulaski_Water_P	89	57	73	-2	0.22	1	48.36	+9.48	1942	-184
Savannah_6SW	91	57	73	-3	0.00	0	50.30	+10.27	2069	+188
Sparta_TN	88	58	72	+2	1.36	2	46.03	+6.73	2039	+507
Springfield	91	57	72	+2	0.00	0	41.06	+5.70	1913	+134
Springhill	90	55	73	+3	0.00	0	42.98	+4.07	2055	+245
Union_City	89	56	72	+1	0.00	0	32.65	-3.73	1925	-50
Waynesboro_TN	90	56	72	+2	0.14	3	48.02	+7.16	1874	-172

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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